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The Accounting Historians Notebook

Vol. 17, No. 2

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Fall, 1994

ACADEMY RECOGNIZES IMA'S DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY



Richard Vangermeersch and Leo Loiselle

The Institute of Management Accountants celebrated its 75th Anniversary and hosted its annual conference in June, 1994 in New York City. Richard Vangermeersch, a past president of the Academy and long time member of the

Institute, represented the Academy in recognizing the history of service and professional contributions of the Institute to the profession of accountancy. Vangermeersch presented a plaque from the Academy to IMA president, Leo Loiselle, during the annual business meeting. The Society of Management Accountants of Canada, The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants also made presentations.

Academy members will find the recent publication of the IMA history entitled, *Proud of the Past: 75 Years of Achievement 1919-1994*, to be of

interest and value. Grant Meyers and Erwin Koval, who authored this publication, provide much information and insight into the establishment and evolution of the National Association of Cost Accountants, National Association of Accountants, and the Institute of Management Accountants.



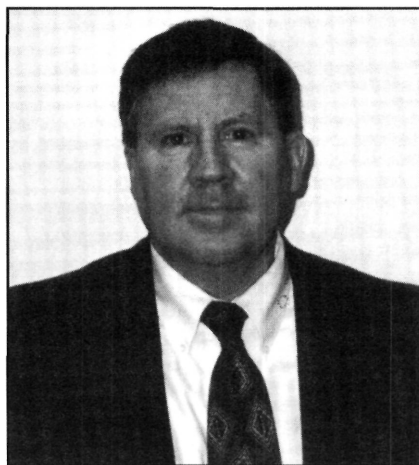
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This has been an exciting year to be president of the Academy. As 1994 marks the 500th anniversary of the publication of Luca Pacioli's treatise on double-entry book-keeping (in his *Summa...*), a number of events have celebrated the significance of this occasion. I, and many of you, have been fortunate to have participated in several of these memorable events. Details of some of these celebrations appear elsewhere in this issue of *The Notebook*.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

The highlight of each year is the Academy's annual Fall conference. This year's conference, which focuses on using history to add value to accounting education, is scheduled December 9-10 (Friday and Saturday) at the Atlanta Hilton and Towers Hotel. A pre-conference reception will be held on Thursday from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. In addition to participation from Academy members, other speakers include Louis Galambos (past President of the Business History Conference), Ronald Patten (Dean, College of Commerce-DePaul University), Mansel Blackford (*Historical Perspectives on Business Enterprise* Editor), Philip Chenok (AICPA President), Doyle Williams (Dean, University of Arkansas and former Chair, Accounting Education Change Commission), and Clarke Price (Executive Director of the Ohio Society of CPAs). I am especially indebted to Ed Coffman (and his committee), Paul Miranti, Gary Previts, and Al Roberts for their assistance in organizing the conference. Given the increased attention devoted to restructuring accounting education, I encourage the membership to attend the conference. Also, please help advertise the conference and urge non-members to attend. The Hourglass Award will be presented at this meeting.

By the time you read this message, the Education Committee (Chaired by Kathy Sinning) will have completed their



"syllabi project." A computer diskette that contains syllabi for accounting history courses and courses where accounting history is being integrated will be available. The diskette also contains information about the Academy's Video Library (Dale Flesher, Director) and an article on the integration of accounting history into the curriculum. The diskette should prove to be extremely valuable to instructors who wish to add a historical perspective to their courses. I am extremely grateful to Kathy Sinning who provided outstanding leadership for this important project. Please be sure to obtain a copy of the diskette for yourself and inform non-Academy members about the availability of the diskette.

Special thanks to Kumar Sivakumar for conducting a very successful and significant CPE session in New York this August which was held in conjunction with the American Accounting Association Meeting. The session, **Use of Capital Markets Research Methodologies in Historical Accounting Research**, was initiated by Haim Falk (Chair, Research Committee) during 1993. Also, I am pleased to report that the current CPE Task Force, chaired by Finley Graves, is in the process of organizing a CPE session prior to the 1995 AAA annual meeting in

Orlando. Look for a forthcoming announcement for details.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Dale Flesher and Bill Samson completed their tenure as Editors of *The Accounting Historians Journal* with the publication of the June 1994 issue. In addition, Patti Mills finished her term as Book Review Editor. The Academy extends our thanks to these individuals for their time, dedication, and contributions. They did an outstanding job.

Barbara Merino and Patti Mills are the new Editors of *The Accounting Historians Journal*. Victoria Beard is the new Book Review Editor. The Academy is very fortunate to have such a talented group serving as the new editorial team.

Sarah Reed has assumed the position of Treasurer from Michael van Breda. The Academy extends to Michael van Breda our thanks and appreciation for his dedicated service and leadership. Please join me in welcoming Sarah Reed to the leadership team.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

I am pleased to announce that Tom Burns and Gene Flegm have been awarded LIFE MEMBERSHIP in the Academy of Accounting Historians by unanimous vote of the Board of Trustees. This award is in recognition of their distinguished contributions to accounting history and for accomplishments in accounting. Congratulations to both for achieving this distinction. A detailed summary of their contributions and accomplishments will appear in the next issue of *The Notebook*.

CLOSING

In a volunteer organization such as ours, a key to success is a willingness to serve in accomplishing Academy goals. This year, as in past years, an ever increasing number of members expressed a desire to serve. Indeed, the future of the Academy is unlimited as an international organization for research, publication, teaching and personal exchange.

Ashton C. Bishop

SCHEDULE OF ACADEMY FUNCTIONS

The activities of the Academy for 1995 are tentative and are presented herein as a means of calling your attention to the plans currently in process.

Spring Meeting, Officers and Trustees

April 5-7, 1995
Midwest AAA Regional
Hyatt Regency
Dearborn, Michigan

Fall Meeting, Officers and Trustees;
Past President's Dinner;
Annual Academy Reception
August 13, 1995

Annual AAA Meeting
Marriott World Center
Orlando, Florida

Annual Research Conference
Annual Business Meeting
November 3-4, 1995
Jumer's Castle Lodge
Champaign, Illinois

Program and information regarding the conference and meetings will be provided in the Spring, 1995 issue of *The Notebook*.



THE ACCOUNTING HISTORIANS NOTEBOOK

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Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701

GUTIERRES-HIDALGO RECEIVES MANUSCRIPT AWARD

The 1994 Richard G. Vangermeersch Manuscript Award goes to Dr. Fernando Gutierrez-Hidalgo. The award is in recognition of his manuscript "Enlightenment and Accounting in the Royal Tobacco Factory of Seville."

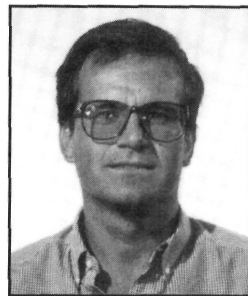
Fernando is an assistant professor of cost accounting at the University of Seville. He has experience as the Chief of Cost Accounting of the Spanish Tobacco Company TABACALERA, S.A. (Factory of Seville) and is an active member of the European Accounting Association.

Dr. Fernando Gutierrez-Hidalgo earned his doctorate degree from University

of Seville in 1993.

His doctoral dissertation was on the relationship between change in the factory layout and changes in accounting systems. Fernando's research interest

is in the area of the Cost Accounting Systems in large companies during the 18th century. He participated in the Doctoral Colloquium of the EAA held in Budapest (1990).



TALK ABOUT MEMBERS

SHELDAHL BEGINS HISTORY PROJECT

Terry K. Sheldahl, Savannah State College, has begun the writing of a three-volume history of the American Philosophical Association through mid-Twentieth Century. The full project is commissioned by the Association's board of officers and entitled, "Divisional Development and Loose Federation: The APA's First Fifty-three Years, 1900-1953."

VAN BRED A TRANSFERS TREASURY TO REED

Michael van Breda, Southern Methodist University, has served as treasurer of the Academy during the past two years. Michael resigned his duties as treasurer in May, due to an overextended

schedule of projects. Michael has contributed much in the development of the Academy's sound financial process and position, and his counsel will be greatly missed.

The Academy is pleased to announce that Sarah Reed, Texas A&M University, has agreed to assume the duties of treasurer. She has recently chaired the international research task force for the Academy and did an outstanding job. Her willingness to accept this important function is much appreciated.

BURNS AND FLEGM

Thomas J. Burns, The Ohio State University, and Eugene Flegm, General Motors, were unanimously voted to Life Membership in The Academy. Tom and Gene are past presidents of the Academy and continue to serve the organization.

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CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

Sponsored by the Academy of Accounting Historians
The University of Central Florida—Orlando, Florida
Saturday, August 12, 1995

(Immediately prior to the 1995 AAA annual meeting)

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: The purpose of the conference is to explore accounting as an expression and instrument of modernity. For proposition's sake, modernity is defined as confidence in rationalism, science and technology to solve mankind's material and social problems, a mode of thought that has guided much of Western thought since the Enlightenment but whose efficacy has recently begun to be questioned. Examples of topics that might be explored are ways in which modernity has shaped contemporary accounting systems; how modernity has infused contemporary accounting research; what contemporary accounting systems—as modernist projects—do *not* account for; how contemporary accounting systems—as modernist projects—affect human behavior; the role of accounting in a postmodern world; accounting's relationship to other expressions of modernity such as modernist art, literature, and architecture; and the legitimacy of a modern/postmodern dichotomy and of theorizing accounting from such a perspective. An objective of the conference is to produce a monograph on the topic of accounting and modernity for the Monograph Series of the Academy of Accounting Historians.

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REGISTRATION: Please contact the organizers for registration and accommodation details. The registration fee is not expected to exceed \$25.00.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: Please send completed papers or an abstract of not more than 1000 words to Finley Graves or Tony Puxty by January 31, 1995.

RESEARCH CENTER FELLOWSHIPS

The Tax History Research Center (THRC), which is sponsored by the Academy of Accounting Historians and housed at The University of Mississippi, is offering research fellowships of up to \$1,000 for individuals wishing to conduct research at the THRC. The grant can be used only for lodging at the Alumni House Motel at The University of Mississippi during the time the researcher is working at the THRC. Based on current room rates, the grant would pay for about four weeks of lodging at Ole Miss. Applications should be submitted at least two months in advance of the projected visit. Applications should include a cover letter and an approximately one page proposal explaining how the resources of the THRC would be useful in the applicant's research.

Both predoctoral and postdoctoral fellowships will be considered. Fellowships would be particularly suitable for those on sabbatical or summer leave.

The THRC has an extensive collection of tax services, congressional committee reports, books, journals, and other publications dating back to 1909, dealing with the federal income tax. Some state materials, primarily theoretical or policy oriented, are also available.

Fellowship applications should be sent to:

Dr. Tonya K. Flesher, Director
Tax History Research Center
School of Accountancy
The University of Mississippi
University, MS 38677

For more information, call Dr. Flesher at (601) 232-5731 or (601) 234-3969.



MONOGRAPHS AVAILABLE

The Academy of Accounting Historians announces the publication of Monograph No. 7 of its Monograph Series, Wolodymyr Motyka's *Bibliography of Russian Language Publications on Accounting 1736-1917, Vol. 1 (1736-1900) and Vol. 2 (1901-1917)*. There is a critical introduction contained in each volume which indexes works on accounting published in Tsarist Russia chronologically, thematically, and by author. The set also contains a glossary and list of sources of main listings. The monograph is published by Garland Publishing and priced at \$132.00.

The Academy also has copies of Monograph No. 6, published in 1991 to honor Dr. Paul Garner. The monograph, entitled, *The Costing Heritage: Studies in Honor of S. Paul Garner*, is edited by O. Finley Graves of The University of Mississippi. The monograph is priced at \$15 for individual members and \$20 for institutional affiliates. Orders and inquiries for Monograph No. 6 should be made to: Doris M. Cook, The Academy of Accounting Historians, Department of Accounting, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas, 72701, USA.

WANTED MANUSCRIPTS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

Anyone wishing to submit short article manuscripts, notes, cartoons, shaggy dog stories, letters to the editor, or other items to THE ACCOUNTING HISTORIANS NOTEBOOK should send the material for consideration to the editor, Elliott L. Slocum, School of Accountancy, Georgia State University, University Plaza, Atlanta, GA 30303.

SOMERSET MAUGHAM

by

Peter Boys

University of Kent at Canterbury

General literature may be considered by some to be an unusual source of accounting history. Although it may provide little on the technical development of the subject, it may permit some insight into the social evolution of accountancy as a profession and the changing image of accountants and their work. This article concentrates on the work of Somerset Maugham, who published a number of plays, novels, travelogues, essays and short stories, together with several reminiscences. Many of Maugham's novels and short stories were drawn, with some literary license, from his own experience.

THE REALITY

Maugham was born in 1874; orphaned at the age of ten, he went to live with his uncle, who was Vicar of Whitstable, Kent. Maugham was educated at The King's School, Canterbury, and briefly attended Heidelberg University, Germany. On his return, he had to find a career and sought advice from a family friend. Maugham wrote in "Looking Back," (*The Sunday Express*, September 16, 1962) that a solicitor by the name of Dixon "had arranged for me to spend a few weeks in an accountant's office in Chancery Lane to see if the work suited me. It didn't, and after a month or so during which day after day I added account to account, I returned to Whitstable." Following his experience in accountancy, Maugham qualified as a doctor before embarking on his long writing career.

Maugham's interlude in Chancery Lane was not his only contact with accountants. From time to time between about 1898 and 1917, he shared accommodation with a friend, Adney Walter Payne, a chartered accountant. In Maugham's words ("Looking Back," *The Sunday Express*, September 23, 1962), "he was a good business man and looked after my financial affairs as I was incompetent to do so."

No doubt, Maugham's experience in accountancy and contacts with accountants led to his inclusion of accountants in his writing.

THE FICTION

In one of his best known books, *Of Human Bondage* (1915¹), which he describes as an autobiographical novel in which Philip Carey is his pseudonym, Maugham elaborates upon his experiences in accountancy.

Maugham had considered accountancy as a career in 1892, nearly forty years after the creation, in 1853, of the first of the three Scottish societies of accountants, and twelve years after the formation of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales in 1880. Through the characters of the novel, readers gain some insight into the turn-of-the-century attitudes toward accountancy. Philip Carey's aunt, reflecting the sentiment of her generation and station in life, says she believes that only four professions were acceptable for a gentleman: the Army, the Navy, the Law, and the Church. She added medicine because her brother-in-law practiced it. However, she could not forget that in her youth no one ever considered a doctor to be a gentleman.

A solicitor friend named Nixon (as compared to Maugham's friend Dixon) suggested that Philip should not be a solicitor because the profession was overcrowded. Rather, according to Nixon, Philip should become a chartered accountant. The firm of Messrs. Herbert Carter & Co., who Nixon had used for thirty years, had a vacancy for an articled pupil, and would take Philip in that capacity for a fee of three hundred pounds.

Neither the Vicar nor his wife knew in the least what [a chartered accountant] was, and Philip had never heard of anyone being a chartered accountant; but another letter

¹ The date cited for all novels is that of first publication. Maugham's works have been reprinted many times and quotations are taken from one of these later editions; no page numbers are given since these are likely to vary from edition to edition.

from the solicitor. The Accounting Historians Notebook, Vol. 17 [1991], No. 1, Part 1, Carter dictated letters to him, and he had to make fair copies of statements of accounts.

...Now and then Philip with one of the more experienced clerks went out to audit the accounts of some firm: he came to know which of the clients must be treated with respect and which were in low water. Now and then long lists of figures were given him to add up. He attended lectures for his first examination. Mr. Goodworthy repeated to him that the work was dull at first, but he would grow used to it....

The Vicar wrote to Mr. Nixon and inquired whether accounting was a profession suited to a gentleman. Mr. Nixon replied that, since the Charter, men were going into it who had been to public schools and a university. Moreover, if Philip disliked the work and after a year wished to leave, half the money paid for the articles would be returned.

Messrs. Herbert Carter & Co. was situated "in a little street off Chancery Lane." The main office was "dark and very dingy. It was lit by a skylight. There were three rows of desks in it and against them high stools." The managing clerk's office was "small and barely furnished," in stark contrast to the much larger partner's room, which had "a big desk in it, and a couple of big armchairs; a Turkey carpet adorned the floor, and the walls were decorated with sporting prints."

Mr. Goodworthy, the managing clerk, told Philip that "there was a good deal of drudgery about [the work,] but when you got used to it, it was interesting; and one made money, that was the chief thing, wasn't it?" Philip stated that he knew nothing about bookkeeping and accounts, and Goodworthy complained, "I didn't suppose you would. They don't teach you things at school that are much use in business, I'm afraid."

Mr. Carter hoped that Philip would like the work and not miss his lectures. The profession wanted to improve its image by encouraging gentlemen to enter.

Maugham's descriptive details of the work of an articulated clerk, as experienced by Philip at the end of the nineteenth century, was less than flattering.

At first the novelty of the work kept Philip interested. Mr.

At the end of the year there was a great deal to do. Philip went to various places with a clerk named Thompson and spent the day monotonously calling out items of expenditure, which the other checked; and sometimes he was given long pages of figures to add up. He had never had a head for figures, and he could only do this slowly.

Philip had neither interest nor ability in accountancy and began to hate it. He began to shirk his work. He was bidding his time until the end of the first year of his articles, at which time he terminated the agreement.

Although Maugham's descriptions of accountancy may not be positive, the reader gains valuable insight into the apprenticeship system, the social status of accountants, the work of the accountant, and the aspirations for professional status at the end of the nineteenth century.

OTHER NOVELS

Accountancy features rarely in Maugham's early works. Before *Of Human Bondage*, the only reference is in *The Merry-go-round* (1905) with an incident involving a character for whom "something went wrong with his accounts."

A number of Maugham's later novels included accountants as characters. In the opening pages of *Christmas Holiday* (1939), the company secretary of the Mason Estate presents at the annual general meeting "the highly satisfactory statement which the char-

tered accountants had prepared. Later Charley Mason "went for four months into the firm of accountants employed by the Mason Estate to learn something of book-keeping."

Another minor mention is found in *Then and Now* (1946), a historical novel set in Italy in 1502. Interestingly, given the year, there are references to "a clever accountant" who acted as a source of information.

One of the main characters in *The Narrow Corner* (1932) is Fred Blake, a young Australian who has been willingly removed, on a ketch, to the East Indies. Blake remarks, "I was studying to be an accountant when my health broke down. This isn't the sort of life I'm used to...I've played cards all my life. I've got a knack for it. That's one of the reasons why I went in for being an accountant. I've got that sort of head." Later, when reflecting on his bad luck, Blake takes comfort in the fact that he is a "pretty good accountant...[and] can get a job as a book-keeper in some store."

Theatre (1937) introduces Tom, a major character, as

...the accountant. He comes from Lawrence and Humphreys. He's been here three days....He's an artiled clerk. He seems to know his job. He can't get over the way our accounts are kept. He told me he never expected a theatre to be run on such business-like lines. He says the way some of those firms in the city keep their accounts is enough to turn your hair grey.

Tom, whose career develops as the novel progresses, is in the last year of his articles and is preparing for his final examination. Once Tom passes the examination, an actress, Julia, suggests Tom's life has changed and that he cannot continue to live in a "bed-sitting room." Julia and her friend Dolly divulge in one conversation that Tom's father has "bought him a share in the firm, and he's a junior partner." By the end of the novel, Tom states that "one of our partners died a couple months ago, and I'm getting a bigger share."

Maugham notes conflicting characteristics in the appearance of Tom, the accountant. On the one hand, Julia "noticed with approval that his clothes fitted and that he wore them well. He looked nice and clean." Later in the

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novel, Tom is described as "very smart in a neat grey suit and a brown hat." On the other hand, Maugham writes that Tom was "one of those persons who everywhere pass unnoticed, and even after you had met him you could not remember what he was like. He was the extra man you invited to dinner to make an odd number even." Julia "found his dullness restful." Dolly says that Tom is "boring, he's dull, he's common and he's a snob." Further, Dolly says that Tom's "only ambition in life is to be a gentleman, and he hasn't the sense to see that the more he tries the more hopeless it is."

Another of Tom's noteworthy characteristics is his skill and ability to deal with taxation. The following statements are gleaned from *Theatre*:

Smart fellow, Tom. He knows a lot about income-tax. I believe he's shown me a way of saving two or three hundred pounds on my next return.

Tom made a great hit with the Dennonants; he explained to them how they could get out of paying as much income-tax as they did.

It had spread around among Julia's grander friends that Tom was very clever at helping one with one's income-tax returns.

You know Tom Fennell, don't you? He's very clever, isn't he? I hear he saved the Gillians hundreds of pounds on their income-tax.

SHORT STORIES²

Maugham is perhaps best known for his short stories, a number of which feature accountants. It is in *Sanatorium* that he provides his only detailed description of an accountant, a man named Henry Chester:

He was a stocky, broad-shouldered, wiry little fellow, and the last

Continued on page 24

²No dates are cited for short stories since it is not possible to discover when they were first published.

MINUTES

Meeting of Trustees, Officers, and Key Members Academy of Accounting Historians Galt House—Mayor's Room — Louisville, Kentucky April 30, 1994

Present: Maureen Berry, Ashton C. Bishop, Ed Coffman, Doris M. Cook, Eugene Flegm, Dale L. Flesher, Tonya K. Flesher, Tom Lee, Barbara Merino, Patti Mills, Gary Previts, Bill Sampson, Elliott Slocum, Ross Tondkar, Michael van Breda.

1. The meeting was called to order by President Ashton Bishop at 12:30 p.m.
2. Minutes of the annual business meeting and the meeting of officers, trustees and key members of December 4, 1993, in Oxford, Mississippi, were approved, as previously distributed by mail.
3. The secretary, Doris Cook, gave the membership report. As of December 31, 1993, total membership was 892, including 488 individuals and 404 institutions.
4. Gary Previts moved that the dues be increased gradually as follows:

	Individuals	Institutions
1996	\$38	\$48
1997	\$40	\$50

After some discussion, the motion passed. The proposed dues increase will be presented to the members at the 1994 annual business meeting for their vote. The dues for 1995 will remain at the same \$36 for individuals and \$46 for institutions as in 1994.

5. Ashton Bishop and Tom Lee reported on the Pacioli Seminar held in Edinburgh, Scotland on March 3, 1994, which they attended as representatives of the Academy. The seminar was in celebration of the 500th anniversary of the publication of Pacioli's *Summa* and was sponsored by the Academy and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland. They noted that the seminar was very

successful, unique, and relevant. There were 17 countries represented with about 150 accounting historians present. There were eight papers on accounting history, which will be edited by Richard Brief and published by Garland in the Spring of 1995. This publication should be suitable for student use as well as historians.

6. Ashton Bishop also reported on the Special World Congress in Venice, Italy, April 9-12, 1994, which he also attended. This conference centered on Pacioli as a man. There were about 250 people in attendance, but only 3 or 4 from the United States.
7. President Bishop reported that Kathleen Sinning has started on the syllabus and reading list project to obtain information concerning college courses which include accounting history. The consensus was that she should continue this project.
8. Plans were announced for a CPE session dealing with research methodologies in historical capital market accounting research, to be held on Wednesday, August 10, 1994, 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m. preceding the annual meeting of the AAA in New York.
9. The President announced plans for the New York meeting, August 10, 1994, at the New York Marriott Marquis:
 - Key Member Meeting, 1:00-4:00 p.m.—Gramercy Room
 - Past Presidents Dinner, 6:00-8:00 p.m.—Kern Room
 - Reception for all members and guests, 8:00-10:00 p.m.—Salon B
10. Plans are being made for the Fall Conference, scheduled for December 9-10, 1994, at the Atlanta Hilton and Towers in Atlanta, GA. The theme of

Perspective and Analysis: An Integral Component of Accounting Education in the 21st Century."

11. Eugene Flegm noted that he has sent letters to obtain funding for the Fall Conference and expects good response. He asked that accounting for the conference funding and expenses be reported separately each year and that any excess balance of conference funds be reported separately.
12. The treasurer, Michael van Breda, gave the treasurer's report. The Academy is in satisfactory financial condition.
13. After some discussion of the budget for the Journal, Gary Previts moved that the page budget be set at upper limits of: 200 pages or \$10,000. The motion passed.
14. After some discussion, a motion was approved that the Academy become a member of the AACSB under the new subscription category made available for academic and learned societies at a small fee of about \$100, beginning in 1994. Gary Previts agreed to be the contact person.
15. Gary Previts reported on the survey made of the membership concerning the future organization and administrative structure of the Academy. Of the 28 responses, 17 were U.S. members and 11 were foreign. The U.S. members expressed interest in a future relationship with the AAA because of the possibility of program space at AAA meetings. The foreign members expressed more interest in a future relationship with a university base to maintain independence. Study of these future possibilities will continue. Barbara Merino suggested that the Academy arrange to sponsor a session of Accounting History papers on the afternoon preceding the 1995 AAA meeting. Six papers could be presented with a coffee break in the middle. The consensus was in favor of proceeding with the suggestion.
16. Dale Flesher moved for approval of the previously proposed grants for student fellowships for research at the Tax History Research Center at The University of Mississippi. The total grants for 1994 will be limited to \$1,000 and may be awarded to one student or several. The motion passed. Notice of the availability of these grants will be included in the *Notebook*.
17. Maureen Berry agreed to continue as the contact person for the International Association for Accounting Education and Research.
18. Maureen Berry asked for suggestions concerning the Fall 1995 conference which will be held in Urbana, IL. It was suggested that the date be set in October or November rather than December because of the weather. The theme of the conference will be related to multi-cultural or international aspects of historical accounting research.
19. A motion was made and approved to sell back issues of the *Journal* and monographs, up through 1992, for \$2 each. A list of those available will be included in the *Notebook*.
20. A motion was made and approved to sell back issues of the *Notebook*, up through 1992, for \$3.00 each. A list of those available will be included in the *Notebook*.
21. Elliott Slocum reported on the *Notebook*. He will have several issues at the Academy booth at the AAA meeting in New York.
22. Gary Previts reminded members of the 1996 World Congress to be held at Queens University, Ontario, Canada, August 11-13, 1996.
23. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Doris M. Cook, Secretary
Academy of Accounting
Historian, May 3, 1994

MINUTES

Meeting of Trustees, Officers, and Key Members Academy of Accounting Historians Mariott Marquis—Gramercy Room—New York, NY August 10, 1994

Present: Maureen Berry, Ashton C. Bishop, Ed Coffman, Doris M. Cook, James Don Edwards, Eugene Flegm, Dale Flesher, Paul Garner, Al Mayper, Barbara Merino, Patti Mills, Gary Previts, Jeanette Sanfilippo, Mary Stone, Ross Tondkar, Richard Vangermeersch

1. The meeting was called to order by President Ashton Bishop at 1:15 p.m.
2. Jeanette Sanfilippo gave the report of the Public Relations Committee for Hans Dykxhoorn. At each of the regional AAA meetings and the Midwest Business Association meeting the Academy has been represented by brochures, flyers and other publications. Jeanette was in charge of the Academy booth at the New York meeting. As was done last year, 1/2 off one-year memberships are being offered to new members for the remainder of the year.
3. Maureen Berry reported on plans for the 1995 Fall Conference. Professor Leslie Oakes from the University of Alberta, Canada, has agreed to be the Technical Director for the program which will have an international theme. The conference has been scheduled for November 3-4, 1995, at Jumer's Castle Lodge in Champaign, IL.
4. Doris Cook, Secretary, distributed minutes of the April 30, 1994 meeting. The minutes were approved as corrected.
5. The current membership report was given by Doris Cook.
6. Don Edwards reported on plans for the 1996 Fall Conference. The theme of this conference will be the celebration of the centennial anniversary of the beginning of the CPA examination and CPA profession in the United States. Don Edwards suggested that Academy members plan to publish articles

throughout the year in the *Journal of Accountancy*, *CPA Journal*, and other publications on the history of the CPA examination, profiles of early practitioners and educators, and other topics.

7. Barbara Merino and Patti Mills reported on the *Accounting Historians Journal*. They suggested that a new section might be included in the *Journal* which would contain commentaries from outstanding practitioners and educators on historical events. The consensus of the group was favorable to this suggestion. Gary Previts and Barbara Merino will continue to investigate costs of publication.
8. Al Mayper reported on the International Research Task Force. Information about international conferences will be published in the *Notebook*.
9. Sarah Reed gave the treasurer's report. Eugene Flegm asked for a separate financial report on conferences and a separate Fund Balance for conferences. The budget for 1995 will be presented at the December meeting.
10. Eugene Flegm reported on long-term funding. Letters have been mailed for fund raising. About \$20,000 has been received this year, and the same is expected for next year.
11. Ashton Bishop reported on the 1994 Fall Conference, which will be held December 8-10, 1994, at the Atlanta Hilton and Towers in Atlanta, Georgia. Planning is on course and includes several special speakers as well as the papers submitted and accepted for presentation.
12. Ashton Bishop and Barbara Merino reported that Accounting History Sessions are planned for the 1995 AAA annual meeting.

13. Kathleen Sinning reported by letter that the Education Committee has received 20 course syllabi for accounting history courses and courses which have integrated accounting history into the outline. The compiled syllabi will be reproduced on diskette and distributed to members of the Academy to assist accounting instructors in adding a historical perspective to the curriculum.
14. Report of the Nominations Committee was given by Dale Flesher. The nominations will be presented for vote at the December meeting.
15. Dick Vangermeersch suggested that the Academy might consider using gifts or plaques to recognize outstanding contributions to accounting history.
16. Ashton Bishop reported that life membership was approved unanimously for: Thomas J. Burns and Eugene Flegm.
17. Gary Previts noted that he had received a bill from AACSB for \$100 subscriber only status for the Academy. A motion was made and approved to pay for this membership for one year and then reconsider for future years.
18. Gary Previts also reminded members of the 7th World Congress of Accounting Historians August 11-13, 1996, at Queens University in Kingston, Canada.
19. Meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

TASK FORCE REPORT

The Academy's 1994 International Research Task Force is commended for the excellent work in providing the following report of conferences and meetings. A special thanks to the individuals who contributed to the final report. These include Gary Carnegie, David Cooper, John Courtis, Giuseppe Gallassi, Roxanne Johnson, Dieter Schneider, and Tomoko Takayama. Alan Mayper served as the chairperson of this task force.

FOUNDING CONFERENCE OF THE EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF ECONOMICS

Erasmus University Rotterdam

February 10-11, 1995

Contact:

Dr. Albert Jolink
Tinbergen Institute
Erasmus University Rotterdam
P.O. Box 1738, 300 DR
Rotterdam
The Netherlands

Comment:

Papers due by October 1, 1994

CONFERENCE OF THE VEREIN FÜR SOCIALPOLITIK'S COMMITTEE FOR ACCOUNTING

Martin Luther University

March 24-25, 1995

Contact:

Prof. Dr. Kloock
Martin Luther Universität
Halle-Wittenberg
Wirtschaftswissenschaftl
Iche Fakultät, 06099

Comment:

Conference held in German.

Theme: "Unternehmensrechnungs instrument der internen steuerung."

THIRD ANNUAL SEEP (STUDIES IN ECONOMIC ETHICS AND PHILOSOPHY) CONFERENCE

Birmingham Young University

Provo, Utah

March 30-April 1, 1995

Contact:

Prof. F. Neil Brady
Marriott School of Management, BYU
P.O. Box 23158
Provo, UT 84602-3158
USA

Comment:

Small International conference; normally held in Germany, Theme: "The Possibility of Ethical Universals in International Business."

**EUROPEAN ACCOUNTING
ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONGRESS**
Birmingham, England
May 10-12, 1995

Contact:

Prof. J. M. Samuels
Birmingham Business School
Eagbaston, Birmingham
B15 2TT, UK

Doctoral Colloquium
May 7-10, 1995

Contact:

Ms. Gerry van Dyck
Rue D'Egmont 13
1050 Brussels
Belgium

**FIRST ASIAN PACIFIC
INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH IN
ACCOUNTING CONFERENCE**

Sydney, Australia
July 2-5, 1995

Contact:

James Guthrie
School of Accounting
The University of New South Wales
Sydney, 2052 Australia
E-Mail: J.
GUTHRIE@UNSW.EDU.AU

**7TH WORLD CONGRESS OF
ACCOUNTING HISTORIANS**
Queen's University, Kingston, Canada
August 11-13, 1996

Contact:

Alan Richardson
Congress Conveyor
School of Business
Queen's University
Kingston, Ontario
Canada K7L 3N6

Comment:

Papers due by September 1995

**JAPAN ACCOUNTING
ASSOCIATION**

Hiroshima, Japan
September 7-9, 1995

Contact:

Etuzo Kishi

Hirshima Shudo University
1717 Otuka Numata-CYO
Hiroshima-shi
731-31 Japan

**ACCOUNTING HISTORY
ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE**
Sendai, Japan
Sometime in 1995, No Date Set Yet
Contact:

Siro Takahashi
Tohoku Gakuin University
980 1-3-1 DOI
Sendai-Shi
Japan

**ACADEMY OF ACCOUNTING
HISTORIANS 1995 FALL
CONFERENCE**

November 3-4, 1995
University of Illinois
Jumer's Castle Lodge
Champaign, Illinois

Contact:

Maureen Berry
Dept. of Accountancy
University of Illinois
Champaign, IL 61820

**OTHER ORGANIZATIONS
HOSTING ANNUAL
CONFERENCES:**

CAAA

Contact:

Administrative Officer, CAAA
Faculty of Management
University of Toronto
Suite 901, 130 Floor, St. West
Toronto, Ontario M5S 1N5
Canada

**BRITISH ACCOUNTING
ASSOCIATION**

AAANZ
(AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND)



FOOTNOTES

*The following short articles and items
are submitted for your interest by the respective authors.*

REPORTING ON THE PERFORMANCE OF AN 1800'S EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE BONUS PLAN

by

John S. Ribezzo

Community College of Rhode Island

INTRODUCTION

The Peace Dale Manufacturing Company, of Peace Dale, Rhode Island, operated during the 1800's. Its product line included ladies' shawls, gentlemen's traveling mauds (robes), and shoe lastings (closely woven fabric for shoe uppers). In 1876, the company published a brochure for the Centennial Exhibition. The brochure provides a company history and boasts itself as the first successful operator of power looms in America, "if not the world..."

In 1878, the company president, John N Hazard, established an employee incentive bonus plan, called the "Plan on Cooperation." The plan stated that dividends were payable as follows:

To persons in the employ of the Peace Dale Manufacturing Co. during the January next preceding the payment, and who were in said employ, at least seven months out of the twelve preceding the 1st of February. Employees discharged for cause, who have not worked at least seven months during the year ending January 31, or who have voluntarily left the employ of this company, previous to that date, will not be entitled to any dividend. The amount of wages each person earns, during the twelve months next preceding the 1st of February, to the nearest whole dollar, is the amount on which the dividend shall be paid.

Management reported the bonuses to be paid to employees through a series of circulars. While the bonus plan may not have been the first of its kind, its publicity through these circulars provides interesting insight into one management team of that day. Techniques of

management that were codified in the twentieth century did exist in an earlier era.¹ By publishing these circulars, the Peace Dale officers demonstrated their concern with management and labor relations, the psychology of the workplace, profit-sharing and perhaps most importantly, disclosure.

FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC DISCLOSURES

The circulars enumerated the conditions which warranted the paying (or not paying) of a bonus in a particular year. For example, even though an 1883 circular laments the results of the past year as not "highly satisfactory," the same circular declares that management is "glad to announce" that a sufficient profit had been realized at Peace Dale to declare a dividend of 3% to labor. The circular notes a heavy outlay to maintain the condition of the plant. Alterations and additions had been made to the plant at a time when the goods market had been unsatisfactory. A five-year summary of the performance of the plan of cooperation was also provided:

1. Jan. 31, 1879, -- No dividend.
2. Jan. 31, 1880, Div., 5%, \$5,842.40
3. Jan. 31, 1881, Div., 5%, \$5,999.65
4. Jan. 31, 1882, Div., 3%, \$3,760.14
5. Jan. 31, 1883, Div., 3%, \$3,760.35

In its 1886 circular, Peace Dale management reported that no dividends would be paid

¹ For example, today, employee incentive and pension plans must comply with the discrimination and disclosure requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, the Employee Retirement and Income Security Act, the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Financial Accounting Standards Board.

for the previous year because the recession started in 1883 had continued well into 1885: less waste, the weavers weave up the whole bobbin, and so on through all the branches, [so that] a great saving can be made, which will wonderfully affect the amount of earnings."

To speak of the causes for the bad business of the past would be futile, even if we could definitely point to them...in these times of universal trade depression, it is only by the minutest care, and attention to every detail, that we can expect to successfully compete with others who are straining every nerve to out-strip us...we are told that the English mills are today running at no profit, and only kept running by their desire to feed starving workmen.

A theme throughout these circulars was shared responsibility evidenced by their system of cooperation. Management warned that inefficiency and wastefulness will "fritter away and destroy this fund." In the 1883 circular, management noted that the economic outlook was not good, and that employees should increase their effort and "attend to the little savings, the wool-washers save every scrap of wool, the spinners make

CONCLUSION

The publication of this profit-sharing plan obligated the management to some extent to pay these "dividends." The disclosure is refreshing and rare. Obviously, management had a close relationship to its employees at Peace Dale, as illustrated in its 1886 circular: "It is with satisfaction...that we look upon our undisturbed condition of mutual confidence and esteem...we are truly thankful that this element exists, and we trust that it will exist as long as a mill stands in Peace Dale..."

REFERENCES

- Brochure: 1876 Centennial Exhibition – The Peace Dale Manufacturing Co.
- Circulars:
 - No. 2 – March 1, 1880
 - No. 5 – March 1, 1883
 - No. 8 – March 1, 1886

EARLY FINANCIAL RECORDS OF DEGANIA: THE FIRST KIBBUTZ

by
Garry Favel

Those familiar with modern Zionist history are aware of the role that Degania Aleph, the first kibbutz, played in the development of contemporary Zionism. Degania Aleph, established in 1910, did not originate as a utopian socialist entity, but rather as a workers collective. It later evolved into a kibbutz, organized as seen today.

This short note illustrates the value of bookkeeping archives, as an auxiliary tool in understanding and assessing organizational or distributive techniques within a subculture. The well kept archives at Kibbutz Degania Aleph, dating from 1910, include minutes of general meetings, bookkeeping records and copies of original contracts. These records make it possible to study how its affairs were recorded.

The records that were available include the financial records of the kvutza (group), which were audited to facilitate the profit-loss sharing agreement with Hachsharot HaYishuv (a part of the original Zionist infrastructure to ensure land management and usage). The profit loss

sharing agreement required the settlement to pay half of the profits earned to Hacharot HaYishuv. Additionally, extensive and meticulous recordings of the work days per member by branch of work are available. The original relationship between the settlers and the kvutza as a separate legal entity, can be examined through these records.

The relationship between the settlers and the kvutza, provides a basis in which to study the extent to which the original settlement followed socialist principles. The relationship required the recording of the work days per individual and the amount each was credited per day. In 1910 the individual work records represented a ledger with the month, day, individual's name and place of work. Exactness in the recording of work days was needed to make sure that each settler received proper credit to his personal account. Each settler received the same amount regardless of the type of work performed. The 1910-11 individual ledgers show

that individuals such as Yosse, Buschen and Beretz received 20 Lirot per work day. Financial records from 1910 to 1920 report "wages" as an expense to the settlement. Another example of separation of the settlers from the entity appears in the 1917 division of profit schedule. This schedule provides a list of all of the members of the settlement, the number of months each was present during that year and each person's share of the settlement's profits. The profits were divided equally among the settlers. In 1917, each member (who was present for the whole year) received 66.25 Lirot. Personal ledgers (accounts) included credits for the work provided and debits (charges) for purchases of food and other items. Although the ledgers provide proof that there were no differential wages, the personal ledgers indicate some lack of commonality within the original kvutza.

Personal ledgers were similar to those used in modern day kibbutzim, where the allowances are equitably distributed rather than according to need. Although an equitable distribution occurs in most kibbutzim today, this represents a change that has evolved over the past thirty years from the generally accepted distribution of funds according to the need of each individual. The main difference between the consumption modes of Degania Aleph of 1910 and modern day kibbutzim is that presently there are less publicly provided services and a larger percentage of total consumption recorded directly into personal ledgers on an equitable basis.

Separation of individuals from the Kvutza, as an entity, is indicated by their inclusion on the Balance Sheet as debtors or creditors. Each settler is listed by name. The 1917 financial statements reported that the kvutza owed the settlers 1306.81 Lirot. Apart from receiving an allowance according to work provided, records show that some elements of the slogan "to each according to his needs," were implemented. Clothes were purchased collectively and distributed according to need. The direct costs of educating and caring for the children were also divided equally among the settlers. Examples of such activities may be found in the settlement's expense records. In 1917, for example, 17.24 Lirot was paid to a dentist for Itzik, and in 1921 Hava repaired her shoes for 100 Lirot.

Through these records, it is also possible to ascertain that within the original kvutza there was a small group known as the communa (commune), which operated on a communal

basis. Though they did not number at most times more than six or seven members, a surviving member, during a recent interview spoke of their symbolic role as "the pure socialist implant" within the kvutza. The individuals who formed the communa did not have individual entity in the kvutza's records. Similar to the preceding description of the individual ledgers, the communa ledgers show credit imputed for the work of their members and debits for various expenses. The 1917 division of profit schedule shows that the communa was credited with 398.45 Lirot with no reference to the individual members. The 1917 Balance Sheet reported that the kvutza owed the communa 581.6 Lirot. These records help to understand the interrelation of the settlers to the entity. Additionally, one can gain insight about their way of life through consumption modes and techniques for distribution of wealth. These materials generally suggest some lack of commonality while revealing evidence of some communally afforded services. Only the communa closely adhered to the principle "from each according to ability to each according to needs."

The minutes of meetings show that after an unsuccessful attempt the previous year, the kvutza decided in 1923 to operate on the basis of income pooling. "Basically, what shaped its character was the necessity for the adaption to the unusual conditions... Hence, the peculiar social structure was necessary to ensure survival." [Infield, 1946, p.9] The surviving member interviewed attributed this decision to economic rationalization and the influence of the communa members over the kvutza as a whole. Their perseverance as a pure socialist implant over the previous thirteen years eventually bore fruit. The records show that as a result of this decision, individual accounts no longer were used, and did not begin to reappear on Degania Aleph until the late 1950's. The accounts of the members in the Balance Sheet of Degania Aleph, as debtors and creditors also vanished.

The Degania Aleph archives and the records of Degania Aleph that continue to the present day provide a wealth of materials available to potential researchers or novices.

REFERENCES:

- Archives of minutes contracts and bookkeeping: Kibbutz Degania Aleph 1910-1965.
- Infield, H. Co-operative living in Palestine, Kegan Paul, London, 1946.

WOMEN IN ACCOUNTANCY: A REMINDER OF A CENTURY PAST

by

Elliott Slocum

Georgia State University

During the past twenty-five years, the profession of accountancy in the United States has experienced a dramatic increase of women entering the practice of accounting, particularly public accounting. Although women have historically worked in business record-keeping, their movement into the mainstream of accounting has until recently been slow and difficult. The following brief comments are to remind us of the difficulties women faced in obtaining an accounting education and entering private, governmental, and public accounting during this century.

EDUCATION

The prerequisite education for accounting has not always been readily available to women. Proprietary schools were the primary source of accounting training until well into the Twentieth Century. However, the training offered to women by proprietary schools was likely to be directed more to general office work and bookkeeping than to professional accounting.

Comer's Commercial College in Boston offered a bookkeeping program for women in 1850. The Boston newspapers reported this to be a good, new idea. Comer [1850] advertised that "ladies" would be provided a separate apartment and have a separate entrance. Although Comer proposed "to instruct in as thorough and practical a knowledge of writing and accounts, as he has hitherto exclusively imparted to the other sex," there appears to have been some difference in the course of study at that time. Ladies were to have a course in "Writing" rather than "Mercantile Writing," and the primary course was entitled, "Writing, Book-keeping, and Housekeeping Accounts rather than, "Mercantile Writing, Book-Keeping, Mental and Commercial Calculations." Other aspects of the study appear to be similar, except that ladies were charged less for each course.

The change from proprietary schools to colleges and universities for accounting education presented additional problems for women. Helen Hoerle reported in 1932 that accounting

programs discouraged women from taking accounting courses. Such conditions did not change greatly during the following thirty years, and few women majored in accounting prior to 1960. Although some professors, such as Henry Rand Hatfield, believed that accounting should be open to women, many accounting professors did not.

PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING

Although entry into private accounting was not without problems, women experienced less difficulty in obtaining work in private and governmental accounting positions than in public accounting. At the turn of the century, R. La Myra Winn [1900] criticized employers who hire women for their youth and stylish appearance rather than for competency. However, Winn was optimistic that more highly trained women were entering business which would benefit women in general. She stated that "the best positions are being opened to women more and more. All we ask is that a woman's age and ability be compared fairly with that of a man, and that women bookkeepers be not judged by the work of incompetent young girls, who secure such employment because of their attractiveness." [p. 82]

During the 1930's, increased demands of government and industry had caused a shortage of accountants which provided women greater access to accounting positions. By 1940, hundreds of women had been hired for accounting and administrative positions in the Securities and Exchange Commission, Federal Power Commission, Federal Income Tax Bureau, and other governmental agencies. Agency reporting requirements also increased the need for accountants in industry, many of whom were women. [Palen, 1945] Obviously, growth in opportunities for women was limited to periods in which the supply of accountants was low. However, their success challenged the old prejudices and brought about some change in attitudes which

Continued on page 22

A considerable amount of research in accounting history is published in numerous books and periodicals, other than those published by The Academy. Knowledge of such research is valuable to the Academy members for personal reasons and for additional research. We encourage readers of *The Notebook* to help the editor in locating the many publications involving accounting history which should be listed in this section:

Accounting History, V5 n2, 1993, (Selected Articles):

Walker E. Fesmire, "A Listing of the Various Writings," pp. 56-69.

Kathy Gibson, "John Bennett Canning: A Sixty Year Perspective, A Jubilee Review of 'The Economics of Accountancy'," pp. 39-46.

Gweneth Norris, "Henry Whitcomb Sweeney: Stabilized Accounting Fifty Years On," pp. 34-38.

Williard E. Stone, "The Development of Charge and Discharge Accounting 1183 to 1660" pp. 4-20.

Accounting Organizations and Society, Oct.-Nov., 1993, (Selected Articles):

R.A. Bryer, "The late 19th century revolution in financial reporting: Accounting for the rise of investor or managerial capitalism?" pp. 649-690.

Wai Fong Chua and Chris Poullaos, "Rethinking the profession state dynamic: The case of the Victorian charter attempt, 1885-1906," pp. 691-728.

Peter Miller and Christopher Napier, "Genealogies of calculation," pp. 631-647.

Patti A. Mills, "The courts, accounting evolution and freedom on contract. A comment on the case law research," pp. 765-781.

Patti A. Mills, "Accounting history as a social science: a cautionary note," pp. 801-803.

Eamonn J. Walsh and Ross Stewart, "Accounting and the construction of institutions: The case of a factory," pp. 783-800.

Barry S. Augenbraun, "Two Cheers for 'Once Upon a Time' Accounting," *CPA Journal*, April, 1993, pp. 7-8.

Philip Cahill, "So old fashioned it's almost fashionable," *Accountancy Age*, April 21, 1994, pp. 327-330.

R.J. Chambers, "Historical cost-tale of a false creed [historical origin of the cost doctrine]," *Accounting Horizons*, March, 1994, pp. 76-89.

Dale Flesher, "IMA pioneers-Four who made a difference," *Management Accounting*, June, 1994, pp. 42-46.

Book Reviews: "Historical perspectives of selected Financial Accounting Topics," reviewed by John Freear, *Issues in Accounting Education*, Fall, 1993, pp. 442-443.

Theresa Hammond and Denise W. Streeter, "Overcoming barriers: Early African-American certified public accountants," *Accounting, Organizations and society*, April, 1994, pp. 271-288.

"Accounting History 1976-86: An Anthology," reviewed by Hans V Johnson, *Accounting Review*, april, 1993, pp 424-425.

A. Leonard, "The death kneel for historical cost? [valuation alternatives considered by Britian's Accounting Standards Board]," *Accountancy*, 111:91, May, 1993.

A.N. Mukhopadhyay, *Limitation of Balance Sheet*, New Delhi, India, 1994.

"Chartered Accountants in England and Wales: A guide to Historical Records," reviewed by R.H. Parker, *Accountancy*, March, 1994, p. 8.

Alison K. Bailey Seas, "Evolution of appraisal reform and regulation in the United States," *Appraisal Journal*, January, 1994, pp. 26-46.

Luigi Serra, *I Libri Di Gagoners, Mostra storica nel V Centenario della Summa di Fra Luca Pacioli (1494-1994)*, 1994.

Hirokazu Sugii and Yoshiro Kimizuka, *Accounting Literature*, Library of the College of Commerce, Nihon University, Tokyo, Japan, 1992.

Technica Economica, No. 147, Junio 1994, (Selected Articles):

Esteban Hernandez Esteve, "Celebraciones en el Quinto Centenario de la Summa de Luca Pacioli," pp. 4-12.

Franciso Esteo Sanchez, "Observaciones para mejorar el cuadro de financiación," pp. 13-16.

Izumi Watanabe, *A History of Book Balancing*, Moriyama Publishing Co. Ltd., Tokyo, Japan.

CONFERENCES, PERIODICALS, AND THINGS

Special events and calls for papers, which may be of interest to members of the Academy, are received during each year. Unfortunately, receipt of the information does not always coincide with publication dates, and the information may be limited in its timeliness. However, in an attempt to inform you of future and past events, we will include as much information as we are aware of regarding conferences, calls for papers, and meetings that have some relation to accounting history.

AMERICAN ACCOUNTING ASSOCIATION 1995 ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the American Accounting Association will be held in Orlando, Florida on August 13-16, 1995. Academic and practitioner members are invited to submit papers and proposals for special concurrent sessions and to volunteer to serve as moderators or discussants. Importantly for members of The Academy, a History [Development of Accounting/Ideas and Practice] section has been established for the annual meeting. History papers should be directed to:

Professor Karen Hooks
Arizona State University
College of Business
School of Accountancy
Tempe, AZ 85287-3606
[Email address:
ATHKLH@ASUVM.INRE.ASU.EDU]

Completed papers for consideration of presentation in a regular session or research forum should be submitted by January 20, 1995 along with a \$15 (U.S.) submission fee for each paper, advanced abstract, or special session proposal submitted. Submissions must be complete in order to be processed—4 copies, submission fee, and submission form A.

AMERICAN ACCOUNTING ASSOCIATION

1995 Regional Group Meetings

Mid-Atlantic

Dates: March 22-25, 1995
Location: Holiday Inn
Huntington, West Virginia

Program Coordinator: William J. Radig
Marshall University
(304) 696-2656

Midwest

Dates: April 5-7, 1995
Location: Hyatt Regency
Dearborn, Michigan
Program Coordinator: Larry E. Rittenberg
University of Wisconsin
(608) 262-2267

Northeast

Dates: April 20-22, 1995
Location: Sheraton Hartford Hotel
Hartford, Connecticut
Program Coordinator: Paul M. Hihalek
The University of Hartford
(203) 768-4363

Ohio

Dates: April 4-6, 1995
Location: Clarion Hotel
Toledo, Ohio
Program Coordinator: John J. Surdick
Xavior University
(513) 745-3493

Southeast

Dates: April 6-9, 1995
Location: Fort Lauderdale, April 6
(Pre-Meetings)
Miami, Norwegian Cruise
Line SS Seaward, April 7-10
Program Coordinator: William S. Hopwood
Florida Atlantic University
(305) 760-5633

Southwest

Dates: March 1-4, 1995
Location: Hyatt Regency
Houston, Texas
Program Coordinator: Neal R. VanZante
Texas A&M University-Kingsville
(512) 595-3930

Western

Dates: May 10-14, 1995
Location: Marriott Desert Springs
Palm Desert, California
Program Coordinator: Ahmad Hosseini
Sonoma State University
(304) 696-2656

SWEDISH ACCOUNTING COLLOQUIUM

The Second Swedish Accounting and Auditing Research Colloquium will be held on Friday and Saturday, February 24-25, 1995 at Umea University. Over 50 papers have been submitted for refereeing by academics from fifteen countries. The program sessions will include: Theoretical Issues in Accounting, Accounting: A Critical Perspective, Accounting History, Marketing Studies in Accounting, International Accounting, Innovative Education in Accounting, Public Sector Accounting, Managerial Accounting, Financial Reporting, and Auditing. Early registration is encouraged. The registration fee is 800 Swedish Kroner. For three nights accommodations, including breakfast, the conference hotel rate is 1200 Swedish Kroner (\$160 US Approximate). The hotel is available on a first served basis. Registration information may be obtained from:

Professor Ashley Burrowes, Director
Swedish Centre for Accounting
& Auditing Research
Umea University
Department of Business Administration
Umea University
901 87 Umea, Sweden
FAX: (46) (90) 16 6674
Phone: (46) (90) 16 6859
Email: Burrowes@biovox.umdc.umu.se

THE JAPAN ACCOUNTING HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Tomoko Takayama, a member of the Academy, reports that Japan Accounting History Association held its 13th Accounting History Conference on June 1, 1994 at Tokyo Keizai University in Tokyo, Japan. The conference was to commemorate the publication and 500th anniversary of Luca Pacioli's *The Summa de Arithmetica, Geometria, Proportioni et Proportionalita*. Tomoko Takayama chaired the organizing committee which included her colleagues Akiyoshi Tanaka, Yoshiaki Jinnai, Shigekazu Kukita, Takao Tanaka, and Takemi Ono.

More than one hundred persons participated in the conference. The celebration speech was delivered at the formal banquet by Mr. Carlo Errami of the Italian Embassy. Two types of presentations were made: free

presentation, and special presentation. The themes of the special presentations for the celebration were:

- "The Path to the *Summa*: Practices of the Capital Account," Katumi Izutani
- "Pacioli's Proprietorship Accounting and Stewardship Accounting," Etuzo Kishi
- "What has been the Book-Keeping after Pacioli?," Hideo Hisano

SPECIAL WORLD CONFERENCE TO CELEBRATE FRA LUCA PACIOLI

The Special World Conference to Celebrate Fra Luca Pacioli, held in Venice, April 9-12, 1994, has been one of the exciting events in accounting history in 1994. The event was jointly hosted by The Italian Society of Accounting History, The National Council of Doctors of Commerce and The National Council of Accounting Experts.

The attendance was 252, of which 102 came from outside Italy, representing all continents and regions of the world, including Eastern Europe and developing countries.

The program included four parallel sessions with 33 papers about "*Pacioli, his time, his work*," "*The work of Pacioli*," and "*Contributions to the history of accounting*" (two sessions) under the chairmanship of Rosella Ferraris Franceschi, Giuseppe Galassi, and Giuseppe Catturi. The papers, presenting authors from different countries, fostered maximum interaction and discussion on timely issues among participants. The wide variety of contributions discussed at the sessions mirrored relevant issues for historical research.

The Special World Conference to Celebrate Fra Luca Pacioli proved accounting history research to be a living and dynamic research area which concerns itself also with very relevant contemporary issues.

COMITE POUR L'HISTOIRE ECONOMIQUE ET FINANCIERE

The French Comite pour l'Histoire Economique et Financiere held a seminar in Bercy on June 30 and July 1, 1994. The seminar was entitled "*La France et les Institutions de Brenton Woods 1944-1994*" and was held under the chairmanship of Mr. Edmond Alphandery, the French Minister of Economy.

Continued on page 23

Women in Acct. The Accounting Historians Notebook, problems occurred, due to their working with men on audits, and their progress had been normal. [Palen, 1945] However, in the postwar years, many of the advances made by women were lost. By 1950, the supply of accountants for public accounting was sufficient that preference was again given to men. The traditional barriers to women were again raised. [Palen, 1953; Gibb, 1954] For the next twenty years, opportunities for women in public accounting were scarce.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTING

Objections to women in public accounting included issues related to travel, job pressure, effect on work resulting from mixing of men and women, and objections from clients. In addition, women were expected to marry, have children, and leave the firm. ["What Militates Against Them," 1923; Quire, 1947] Hoerle [1932] reported that a woman who knows stenography in addition to accounting could obtain a position in an accountant's office, but she would be wise to refrain from admitting she is an accountant until she had proven her usefulness.

During the 1930's, the number of women Certified Public Accountants (CPA) increased very slowly. In 1933, the American Woman's Society of Certified Public Accountants was organized, and during the next seven years, the organizations grew to 66 members in twenty states. A principal obstacle to women obtaining the CPA certificate was that public accounting firms generally would not hire women, thus, women could not easily obtain the required practical experience. [Priester, 1940]

By 1940, a few women had entered public accounting and approximately 150 had become CPAs. However, some did indeed have to gain entrance through positions as stenographers and typists. [Priester, 1940] Most worked for small CPA firms or conducted their own accounting practices.

The war years, 1941-1945, provided unique opportunities for women in public accounting. The New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants established a committee on wartime problems in 1942. One of its functions was to develop the employment of women staff members. [Palen, 1945] Although academics were more positive about women studying accounting and considering public accounting as a career, the past prejudices made the finding of qualified women accountants difficult. The few women accounting graduates found no difficulty in placement because they were hired before graduation. [Palen, 1945; "Accountants' Job Beckons Women," 1942]

Representatives of CPA firms favorably reported that women had performed at highly satisfactory levels, clients had not objected, no

SUMMARY

During the period 1965-1975, the growth of public accounting, as well as private and governmental accounting, and demands for staff, changes in social attitudes, and changes in the economy necessitating two-income families have combined to provide greater access for women to accounting as a career. However, the struggles and successes of the few women accountants during the first sixty-five years of this century established a legacy which should be remembered.

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ACCOUNTING EDUCATION VS HOME ECONOMICS: SIXTY YEARS AGO

Dean Paul Garner calls to our attention an article written by Edwin A. Lee entitled, "Whither Business Education?" published in *Business Education World*, April, 1935. Dr. Lee was Superintendent of Schools in San Francisco. Dr. Garner was impressed by a paragraph in the article on "accounting education" in view of the current discussion and controversy about accounting education. Dr. Lee's commentary follows.

The fourth element of business education is the developments in accounting education. The reader should note that the term is not education for accounting. What is meant is a program of education that has for its objective the teaching of the principles of accounting in such simple terms as will make possible on the part of all to earn some measure of control over that which they earned. Money, wages, income are worthless in and of themselves. The value of money exists in terms of that which it will purchase. Wise expenditure of that which flows into one's exchequer (possibly dribbles would be a better word than flows), no matter

what its limits, determines the difference between a measure of contentment and despair. What was it that Micawaber said, 'annual income 20 pounds, annual expenditure 19 pounds, 196, result happiness. Annual income 20 pounds, annual expenditure 20 pounds, 06, results misery.' That is accounting education in a sentence. The home economic teachers have beaten the business educators to the start in this field and such is their speed that business teachers may find it difficult to catch up. But far too small portion of girls and practically no boys ever come in contact with home economics. A field almost untouched is there for the tilling. What a harvest in terms of real life values there is for those business educators wise and capable enough to sense the problem.

"Whither Business Education?" requires another approach if the answer is to be completely rounded. Nothing seems so clear to me as that business specifically and all of us generally are in the mess we are in because business has lacked real leadership.



ConferencesContinued from page 21

The four sessions of the seminar included 33 papers on: "France in the Breton Woods system from 1944 to 1994", "France and the International Monetary System since 1958", "France and the International help for development" and "Appraisal and perspectives".

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person you would have ever thought would be attacked by T.B....He was a perfectly ordinary man, somewhere between thirty and forty, married, with two children. He lived in a decent suburb. He went up to the City every morning and read the morning paper; he came down from the City every evening and read the evening paper. He had no interests except his business and his family. He liked his work; he made enough money to live in comfort, he put by a reasonable sum each year, he played golf on Saturday afternoon and on Sunday, he went every August for a three weeks' holiday to the same place on the east coast; his children would grow up and marry, then he would turn his business over to his son and retire with his wife to a little house in the country where he could potter about till death claimed him at a ripe old age. He asked nothing more from life than that, and it was a life that thousands upon thousands of his fellow-men lived with satisfaction. He was the average citizen.

One of Maugham's first short stories makes reference to accountancy. *A Bad Example* features a clerk, James Clinton, who worked for Haynes, Bryan & Co. It is not entirely clear what this firm does, but Clinton spends his mornings and his afternoons "at his desk, solemnly poring over figures, casting accounts, comparing balance-sheets." However, Clinton does have some advice to give: "If I was a member of the aristocracy I'd give my sons five years in an accountant's office. There's nothing like a sound business training for making a man."

This advice would seem to have been followed in *The Kite*. The main character is Herbert Sunbury, whose father Samuel "had got him into the office of the accountants who came twice a year to do the accounts of his own firm." Herbert had a good head for figures. "If that's a fact," says Samuel Sunbury, "he'd better be an accountant. There's always a good job waiting for a good accountant."

These themes occur again in *A Man with a Conscience*, in which the setting is a prison. One prisoner tells his story:

and he's put me in the accountant's department. I love figures, it gives me an intense satisfaction to deal with them, they're living things to me, and now that I can handle them all day long I feel myself again....

You see, I'm making myself useful here. The accounts were very badly kept when I took them over, and I've got them in apple-pie order. There have been leakages, and I'm convinced that if they'll give me a free hand, I can stop them....

A clever accountant like me, and a man who's honest and industrious can always get work.

CONCLUSION

Most of Maugham's novels and short stories are currently in print which is testimony to his continued popularity as an author. Clearly, many aspects of his writing, including his portrayal of accountancy, may be considered out-of-date. *Of Human Bondage* provides an interesting social history of accountancy at the end of the nineteenth century. However, accountancy has changed over the last hundred years and is considered by many to be as reputable a profession as the Army, Navy, Law, Church or Medicine. The idea of buying into a partnership may be outdated, and the emphasis on taxation advice may give a misleading impression of an accountant's work. Whether the profession consists of gentlemen may also be questioned!

Maugham's short experience in an accountant's office, and his friendship with Payne, must have influenced his views. Clearly, he did not enjoy the work, perhaps finding it antithetical to his artistic temperament. Nevertheless, he seems to have admired accountants, particularly their knowledge and skill depicted by his descriptions of them as "clever." Unfortunately, accountants are portrayed by Maugham in a somewhat traditional stereotype. He describes them as being good with figures, but with personalities which are unimaginative and dull. Lay readers of his work may gain a misleading impression of the modern accounting profession.

